

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A signaling control device apparatus comprising:
a light source including at least one LED, the light source having a light emitting surface;

at least one sensor set to detect an external light load directed to the light emitting surface and generate a control signal indicative of a presence of the external light load, the external light load being one of sunlight and a light from approaching train headlights; and

an electrical control system for receiving the control signal indicative of the presence of the external light load and triggering an increase in current being supplied to the at least one LED in response to the received control signal which increased current is being maintained for at least while the external light load is present;

wherein the at least one LED and the at least one sensor are disposed on a same printed circuit board; and

wherein the current is raised by pulsing the current to cause the at least one LED to pulse at a frequency higher than visually perceivable.

2. (Original) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the at least one sensor includes a photodiode.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A signaling apparatus, comprising:
a light source including at least one LED, the light source having a light emitting surface;

at least one sensor set to detect an external light load directed to the light emitting surface and generate a control signal indicative of a presence of the light load,

wherein the at least one sensor being positioned in an enclosure which is located remotely from the light source; and

an electrical control system for receiving the control signal indicative of the presence of the external light load and triggering an increase in current being supplied to the at least one LED in response to the received control signal which increased current is being maintained for at least while the external light load is present.

5-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as set forth in claim 4 [[1]], wherein the current is continuous.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as set forth in claim 4 [[1]], wherein the current is pulsing.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the at least one sensor detects a magnitude of the light load and wherein the control system receives a control signal indicative of a value of the magnitude of the load and generates an increased current to be supplied to the at least one LED in proportion to the load magnitude.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a signaling device, the method comprising:

providing a light source including at least one LED, the light source having a light emitting surface;

setting at least one sensor to detect an external light load directed to the light emitting surface, the external light load being one of sunlight and a light from approaching train headlights;

mounting the at least one sensor in an enclosure in a location remote from the

light source;

in response to detecting a presence of the external light load, generating a control signal indicative of detecting the external light load;

receiving the control signal by an electrical control system;

triggering an increase in current being supplied to the at least one LED in response to receiving the control signal; and

maintaining the elevated current for at least while the external light load is being present;

wherein the current is raised by pulsing the current to cause the at least one LED to pulse at a frequency higher than visually perceivable.

12. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 11, wherein the at least one sensor includes a photodiode.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 11, further including:

mounting the at least one LED on a printed circuit board.

14-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 11, further including:

one of supplying a continuous current and a pulsing current.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 11, further including:

detecting a magnitude of the light load; and

generating an output control signal indicative of a value of the light load magnitude.

20. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 19, further including:

receiving the magnitude value by the electrical control system; and
supplying the elevated current to the at least one LED, the elevated current being proportionate to the detected light load magnitude.

21. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 20, further including:

continually adjusting a value of the elevated current based on the detected light load magnitude.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 11, wherein the signaling device includes a rail signaling device and further including:

positioning the rail signaling device on a sharp bend; and
orienting the remotely positioned sensor along the bend towards a direction of the light of the approaching train headlights which train is approaching the rail signaling device from beyond the bend.

23. (Currently Amended) A rail signaling system comprising:
a rail signaling device including at least one LED, the rail signaling device having a light emitting surface;

at least one sensor set to detect an external light load directed to the light emitting surface and generate a control signal indicative of a presence of the external light load, the external light load being one of sunlight and a light from approaching train headlights; and

an electrical control system for receiving the control signal indicative of the presence of the external light load and triggering an increase in current being supplied to the LED in response to the received control signal which increased current is being maintained for at least while the detected external light load is present;

wherein the signaling device is positioned on a sharp bend and the sensor is in an enclosure positioned remotely from the signaling device alongside the bend so that

the sensor is oriented toward the light of the approaching train headlights which train is approaching the rail signaling device from beyond the sharp bend; and

wherein the current is raised by pulsing the current to cause the at least one LED to pulse at a frequency higher than visually perceivable.

24. (Cancelled)